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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

Letter dated 11 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to call your attention to the statement of 7 May 1998 issued by the Presidency of the European Union on the Middle East peace process.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) John WESTON
Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement of 7 May 1998 issued by the Presidency of the European Union on the Middle East peace process

The European Union welcomes the efforts of the United States of America in the London talks, and supports the proposals it has put forward. It also welcomes President Yasser Arafat's acceptance of these proposals. It regrets that it was not possible to reach final agreement on the proposals in London, and encourages the Government of Israel to respond positively to them in order to restore momentum in the peace process and facilitate the resumption of final status talks.

The European Union offered its assistance to the parties in facilitating the discussions in London, and will continue to do all it can to help carry the process forward, in support of the United States efforts.